

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a colored fine particulate resin, which comprises the following steps:

bringing a colored resin, which comprises a thermally fusible resin and a colorant evenly distributed in said thermally fusible resin, into a molten state;

forming said colored resin, which is in said molten state, into droplet-shaped fine particles by injecting through small openings of a porous or multi-opening material or by a nozzle or by spraying said colored resin in said molten state into in a non-dissolving medium which does not dissolve said colored resin; and then

cooling and solidifying said droplet-shaped fine particles ~~wherein said thermally fusible resin is a polyester resin having aromatic rings or alicyclic rings, or an epoxy resin having aromatic rings or alicyclic rings.~~

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said colored resin has a melt viscosity of from 1 to 500 Pa·s at a temperature of from 80°C to 180°C.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said colored resin has a melt viscosity of from 1 to 100 Pa·s at a temperature of from 90°C to 160°C.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein in said forming step of said droplet-shaped fine particles, said non-dissolving medium is set at a

temperature of from 80°C to 200°C; and said cooling and solidifying step is conducted at a temperature of from -10 to 20°C.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein in said forming step of said droplet-shaped fine particles, said non-dissolving medium is set at a temperature of from 100°C to 160°C; and said cooling and solidifying step is conducted at a temperature of from 0 to 10°C.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said colored resin in said molten state is dispersed in an emulsified form in a non-dissolving liquid medium.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said colored resin in said molten state is formed by injecting, dispersing or spraying the same into a non-dissolving liquid or gaseous medium.

Claim 8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said thermally fusible resin is a polyester resin having aromatic rings or alicyclic rings, a glass transition point not lower than 50°C, and a softening point of from 100 to 50°C.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 9, wherein said polyester resin has a weight average molecular weight of from 1,000 to 50,000.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said thermally fusible resin is an epoxy resin of a bisphenol polyglycidyl ether type, or an ester derivative thereof.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 11, wherein said epoxy resin or said ester derivative thereof has a weight average molecular weight of from 1,000 to 50,000.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said colorant is at least one colorant selected from the group consisting of a yellow pigment: a 27:3 by weight parts mixture of C.I. Pigment Yellow 128 and phthalimidomethylated disanthraquinonyl-monophenylamino-s-triazine, a red pigment: a 27:3 by weight parts mixture of C.I. Pigment Red 122 and phthalimidomethylated dimethylquinacridone, a blue pigment: a 27:3 by weight parts mixture of C.I. Pigment Blue 15:3 and phthalimidomethylated copper phthalocyanine, and a black pigment: a 27:3 by weight parts mixture of C.I. Pigment Black 6 and phthalimidomethylated copper phthalocyanine.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A colored fine particulate resin produced by a process according to any one of claims 1-7 and 9-13.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The colored fine particulate resin according to claim 14, which is useful in an image recording material, printing material or paint.

Claim 16 (Original): A process for coloring an article, which comprises coloring said article with an image recording material, printing material or paint comprising a colored fine particulate resin according to claim 15.

Claim 17 (New): The process according to claim 1, wherein said thermally fusible resin is a polyester resin having aromatic rings or alicyclic rings or an epoxy resin having aromatic rings or alicyclic rings.

Claim 18 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the porous or multi-opening material is a perforated sheet of stainless steel, a perforated sheet of brass, a stainless steel net, a brass net, a porous glass film, a shirasu porous glass or a porous ceramic.

Claim 19 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the nozzle is a spray nozzle of the rotating disk, pressure nozzle or two-fluid nozzle type.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 is currently amended.

Claims 2-7 and 9-15 were previously presented.

Claim 8 was previously canceled.

Claim 16 is original.

Claims 17-19 are new.

The amendment to Claim 1 is supported on page 8, lines 9-13 and on page 11, line 24 to page 12, line 3 of the specification.

New Claim 17 is supported by original Claim 8.

New Claim 18 is supported on page 12, lines 13-16 of the specification.

New Claim 19 is supported on page 14, lines 15-17 of the specification.

Upon entry of the amendment Claims 1-7 and 9-19 will be active.

No new matter has been added by the amendments.